

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 00897 052154Z

61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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P R 052127Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6400

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USCINCSO

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 0897

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: SOMOZA TELEVISION INTERVIEW

1. PRESIDENT SOMOZA WAS INTERVIEWED ON LOCAL TELEVISION MARCH 3, DISCUSSING NICARAGUA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS AND COMMENTING ON THE INTERNAL SITUATION.

2. LATIN SOLIDARITY. LATINS OUGHT TO FEEL A SENSE OF UNITY FOR THEIR MUTUAL PROTECTION, BUT HAVE BEEN DIVIDED THROUGHOUT HISTORY BY REAL AND IMAGINED CIRCUMSTANCES. WITH REGARD TO MEETINGS WITH VENEZUELA'S PRESIDENT PEREZ, HE SAID IN PUERTO ORDAZ THAT HE WOULD MAKE A VISIT TO GUATEMALA, BUT NOTHING MORE THAN THAT IS KNOWN. COMMENT: SOMOZA HAS TOLD US THAT HE THINKS PEREZ HAS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED HIS TRIP.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 MANAGU 00897 052154Z

3. TRIPS ABROAD. SOMOZA SAID HE HAD VARIOUS FOREIGN TRIPS PENDING, INCLUDING ONE TO THE U.S. COMMENT: SOMOZA

HAS BEEN INVITED BY FLORIDA GOVERNOR ASKEW TO ADDRESS A CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AT TAMPA IN MAY.

4. DOMESTIC OPPOSITION. THE MWUN WHO LOST THEIR CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS FOR ADVOCATING ABSTENTION IN THE ELECTIONS LAST YEAR, SAW THEIR SIX MONTH SENTENCE EXPIRE A WEEK AGO. THEY SHOULD REQUEST THE LIFTING OF THE PENALTIES THROUGH LEGAL CHANNELS. COMMENT: THE 27 TOOK THE HINT AND FILED A MOTION THE NEXT DAY.

5. INTERNAL SECURITY. THERE IS CALM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AS IT AWAITS THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE MILITARY COURT'S INVESTIGATION OF THE LOS ROBLES AFFAIR. ITS FINDINGS WILL DETERMINE WHAT MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN REGARDING THE STATE OF MARTIAL LAW NOW IN EFFECT. THE INVESTIGATION, WHICH IS BEING CARRIED OUT PEACEFULLY, HAS PROVIDED VALUABLE INFORMATION REGARDING THE FACT THAT THERE IS A SUBVERSIVE MOVEMENT WHICH IS TRYING TO OVERTURN CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER FROM ABROAD. COMMENT: AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THE MILITARY COURT INVESTIGATION HAS FAILED TO PRODUCE ANY INFORMATION THAT WAS NOT KNOWN BEFORE. SOMOZA IS HINTING THAT THE STATE OF SIEGE MAY BE CALLED OFF AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION.

6. CUBA. NICARAGUA'S COMPLAINT AGAINST CUBA HAS PROVOKED AN ADVERSE REACTION AGAINST CUBA AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF THE OAS. AT THE UN, THE SOVIET BLOC HAS BEEN EMBARRASSED BY CUBA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD NICARAGUA. COMMENT: NICARAGUA INTENDS NOT TO LET THE WORLD EASILY FORGET THAT THE CUBAN INTERVENTION ISSUE IS STILL ALIVE IN THE HEMISPHERE. SHELTON

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